

## FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### AGENDA March 12, 2019

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. @ Wisconsin Place Community Center 5311 Friendship Boulevard, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

Chair: Barbara Moir Condos Vice Chair: John Mertens
Staff Contact: Jim Carlson / (240) 777-8382 (301) 318-0328
james.carlson@montgomerycountymd.gov

8:30 1. Introductions/Agenda Review (additions/deletions)

**Barbara Condos** 

2. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes Jan (©2)

All

8:35 3. Presentation-Washington Area Bus Transformation Project

Jason Mumford AECOM

9:05 4. Employer Traffic Mitigation Plans & TMP Annual Reports Summary (©4)

Jim Carlson

9:20 5. Updates: TMD/Police/DOT/Other County Updates
Live discussion w/CE Marc Elrich, March 14 / 1-2 pm

Sandra Brecher Chief John Fitzgerald Derrick Harrigan Jim Carlson

- 6. New Business / Around the Room
- 7. Adjourn

Next meeting date: May 14, 2019

Information Items

Montgomery County to Test Expanded E-Bikes, Add Dockless E-Scooters
Elrich Appoints New Procurement Director and Three Assistant Chief Administrative Officers
Metro prepares for summer platform reconstruction
Metro begins testing automatic door operations on passenger trains

# Friendship Heights Transportation Management District Advisory Committee January 8, 2019

**Voting Members** 

Charles Crerand CBRE Asset Services/Wisconsin Place

Elizabeth Demetra Harris Friendship Heights Village

Christopher Itteilag Somerset House Management Association

John Mertens (Vice Chair) Friendship Heights Village

Manuel Ochoa Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights

Afua Ofori Polinger Co./Large Employer

Ahkeeia Payne GEICO

**TMD Staff** 

Jim Carlson MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services

Absent

Tiffany Anderson Chevy Chase Land Company

Sandra L. Brecher MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services
Nakengi Byrd MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services

Barbara Condos (Chair) Town of Somerset

Chief John Fitzgerald Chevy Chase Village Police

Derrick Harrigan B-CC Services Center

Katie Mencarini M-NCPPC

Captain Paul Liquorie MC Police Dist. 2

Guests

Bob Joiner The Agenda News

Julian MansfieldFriendship Heights VillageTom QuinnANC-3 NeighborhoodJeffrey SlavinMayor, Town of SomersetStephanie SmarrChevy Chase Land CompanyDale Stempler4701 Willard Tenants Association

Item 1 & 2 – Introductions/Minutes: Members and guests introduced themselves.

Meeting minutes for July and September 2018 were approved.

Item 3 – The Collection Redevelopment: Stephanie Smarr, Chevy Chase Land Company, presented an update on redevelopment of The Collection retail store area on the north side of Wisconsin Circle (and directly across from the bus station). The changes include:

- Installation of parking gates (ticket dispensers with arms) at either end of the upper deck of the surface parking lot located closest to the Buffer
- Adjustments and modifications to the tiered plaza area,
- New STOP signs throughout the lower surface parking lot and interior streets,
- Shifting the location for some of the proposed parallel parking spaces,
- Modifications to the water feature and art within Farr Park including additional wayfinding and business directory signage,

- adjustments to the light pole locations to accommodate some of the above-stated changes, and
- consolidation of the entry and exit driveways along the proposed Montgomery Street roundabout for access to the Saks Fifth Avenue property.

The final vision for redevelopment will incorporate a more open, walkable and inviting area that provides a more visually appealing landscape and removes the current wall and other visual barriers along Wisconsin Circle.

**Item 4 – TMD Updates: Jim Carlson** announced upcoming County Executive operating budget forums beginning January 14.

Mr. Carlson called attention to a letter to State Highway Administration from Friendship Heights resident Barbara Tauben, included in the meeting packet, requesting a review of the placement of a light pole along Wisconsin Avenue. The pole is partially obstructing movement and could pose a problem for physically challenged individuals.

Adjourn: Next meeting date: March 12, 2019

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## Friendship Heights TMD Traffic Mitigation Plan & TMP Annual Reports Summary March 2019

#### TMP Code Requirements:

- 1. Contact person designated to receive and distribute commuter information to employees
- 2. Information on transit and other commute alternatives distributed/posted regularly (furnished by Commuter Services/CSS)
- 3. Facilitate CSS/TMD staff presentations and commuter information events for employees and HR/administrative staff. This could include benefits fares and other employer-sponsored events
- 4. Guaranteed Ride Home Promotion (free regional program offering emergency rides)
- 5. Annual Commuter Survey distributed to employees (short survey of transportation—supplied by CSS/TMD)
- 6. ADA information provided (transportation services for people with disabilities)
- 7. Permanent display area for bus schedules and other transportation information
- 8. Compile information on yearly TMP activities and submit Annual Report

Employer	Status	Recommend to MCDOT
Washington Eye Physicians & Surgeons	Meets required elements and has voluntary measures.  New hire information Bike racks available Info about carpool matching provided Telework permitted on a case basis Pre-tax payroll deduction SmartBenefits up to \$100/mo / avg. 18 employees Transit and parking subsidized equally	Yes
Pacific Western Bank	Meets required elements and has voluntary measures:  Metrocheks Pre-tax deduction Gym, showers Bike racks	Yes
Microsoft	<ul> <li>Meets required elements and has voluntary measures.</li> <li>Preferred parking for pools</li> <li>Showers</li> <li>All employees have telework option / 50% telework any given day</li> <li>Flexible schedules</li> <li>Pre-tax payroll deduction</li> </ul>	Yes

## Press Releases - Department of Transportation

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## Montgomery County to Test Expanded E-Bikes, Add Dockless E-Scooters; Letters of Interest from Vendors Solicited

#### For Immediate Release: Tuesday, February 26, 2019

With dockless bikes already enjoyed in various areas of Montgomery County, the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) is seeking letters of interest from vendors to test the expansion of the program county-wide while also testing the introduction of dockless e-scooters. MCDOT will conduct a demonstration project with up to four selected companies to deploy dockless e-scooters and e-bikes at no cost to the County. The demonstration project is expected to begin in March and run for six months with an option for extension.

MCDOT has built numerous safeguards into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to ensure successful, safe and sustainable operation of dockless vehicle-sharing services within the County. These include performance measures like fleet size and condition, customer information and training on safe and appropriate operation of dockless vehicles including information about appropriate parking locations, response time to service requests, privacy protection, deployment density limits, removal of dockless vehicles in violation of the parking requirements, a publicly accessible application program interface and safety reports, among others.

Dockless companies interested in participating in the pilot should send a letter of interest, not to exceed three pages, to Gary Erenrich at gary.erenrich@montgomerycountymd.gov by March 11, 2019. The letter should indicate proposed deployment areas within the County's approved pilot boundaries, the company's customer service contact information, management plan and acknowledgement of and agreement with the terms of the County MOU. Prospective vendors should submit any questions to Gary Erenrich by March 1; the questions and responses will be posted at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/bikeshare on or about March 4.

Companies selected to participate will need to sign the County MOU and provide proof of insurance and a \$10,000 performance bond. Companies that deploy both dockless e-bikes as well as e-scooters will receive priority consideration. Selected companies will be required to provide real-time operational data for County

management and for program analysis.

Rather than relying on fixed stations to access the equipment, customers use a mobile app to locate a nearby dockless bike or e-scooter with GPS and unlock it. When a customer completes a dockless bike or e-scooter trip, the bike or scooter must be parked within public right of way in accordance with the MOU except within jurisdictions that are not participating in the program. Those jurisdictions will be geo-fenced and a customer will either be unable to complete the trip in those areas or may receive a penalty, as determined by the dockless company.

Montgomery County's agreement with dockless bike share and e-scooter companies is part of a demonstration project to test the concept county-wide. As the first suburban jurisdiction in the country with dockless bikeshare, Montgomery County already authorized dockless bikes in Silver Spring, Takoma Park and North Bethesda. The program serves the County's goal of providing more transportation options that support a greener county.

General feedback about the pilot program or about a specific company participating in the pilot is welcome. Send an email to mcdot.commuterservices@montgomerycountymd.gov, or contact MC311 online or by calling 311 from within Montgomery County or 240-777-0311 from outside the County (Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.), or by following MC311 on Twitter @311MC311.

Release ID: 19-031

Media Contact: Maureen McNulty 240-777-7199



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# Elrich Appoints New Procurement Director and Three Assistant Chief Administrative Officers

For Immediate Release: Monday, March 4, 2019



Pictured (I to r) are: Ash Shetty, Caroline Sturgis, Alfred Fletcher II, Adriana Hochberg

Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich has appointed Ash Shetty as director of the County's Office of Procurement. Elrich also named Alfred Fletcher II, Adriana Hochberg, and Caroline Sturgis as new assistant chief administrative officers (ACAO).

All four appointments required County Council approval.

"These highly qualified appointments further my vision for a more equitable and inclusive Montgomery County that will create a brighter and more prosperous future for everyone," said Elrich. "I decided early on that I would not surround myself with mirrors – because mirrors lie. You end up seeing what you want to see. And, I don't want to see what I want to see, I want to see a more accurate picture so I can get to the

challenges at hand. I want to make sure that the people coming into my administration have a diversity of views and expertise in areas that I don't have; and I am grateful the County recognized the talents of these appointees."

Elrich seeks a County government led by people who are ambitious, ethical, inclusive, and innovative. A brief background sketch of each of the above appointees, and their respective responsibilities in their new positions is provided below.

#### Ash Shetty

Since 2010, Shetty has worked directly with procurement heads of large organizations on initiatives that would be part of his new role as the director of the Office of Procurement. He has overseen spend analyses to identify high risk and high criticality vendors at several large organizations including Fortune 100 companies. He holds an MBA from Georgetown University.

#### Alfred Fletcher II

Fletcher is the former deputy director of the Department of Small and Local Business Development in Washington, D.C. since 2018, and chief of staff for the same jurisdiction's Department of General Services prior to that. He holds a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Phoenix. He is also a 2016 graduate of President Obama's Leadership Workshop. ACAO areas of responsibility include A Growing Economy and A More Affordable and Welcoming County.

#### Adriana Hochberg

Hochberg joins the County from Washington, D.C. where she was chief of staff for the District's Department of Energy and Environment. Prior to that she was a program analyst for the District's Office of the City Administrator. Hochberg earned a master's in Public Policy from Harvard University. ACAO areas of responsibility include A Greener County and Easier Commutes.

#### **Caroline Sturgis**

Sturgis comes to Montgomery County from Baltimore City where she developed an extensive fiscal background during her tenure as the deputy budget director for the city's finance department and prior to that served as the director of fiscal services and later Chief Financial Officer for the city's police department. She earned an MBA from Nova Southeastern University. ACAO areas of responsibility include Safe Neighborhoods and Thriving Youth and Families.

The procurement department's role is to preserve the public trust and ensure the integrity of the public procurement process through the efficiency and effectiveness of the procurement of goods, services, and construction in accordance with best practices; resulting in the highest value for County government and its residents.

The ACAOs will assist Chief Administrative Officer Andrew Kleine in supervising the daily operations and performance of County government and its departments and agencies. Fariba Kassiri will become the deputy chief administrative officer to more accurately reflect her additional areas of responsibility which include Effective and Sustainable Government.

Elrich has launched a national search to fill other key leadership roles in his administration. The remaining positions to be filled include the directors of Department of Health and Human Services; Housing and Community Affairs; Montgomery County Public Libraries; Office of Human Resources; Office of Public Information; and the County's Chief of Police. Those nominations will also have to be confirmed by the County Council.

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Media Contact: Ohene Gyapong 240-777-6507



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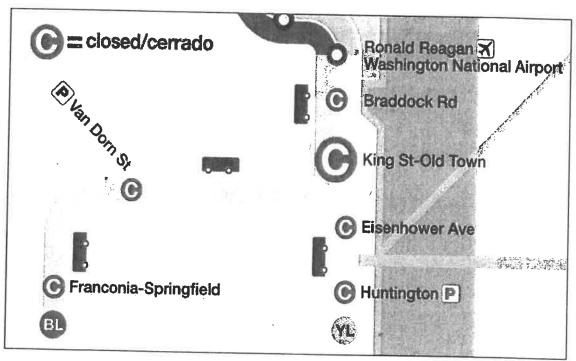
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### Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

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For immediate release: February 28, 2019

# Metro prepares for summer platform reconstruction; buses replace Blue/Yellow trains south of National Airport this weekend



In preparation for major platform reconstruction work this summer, Metro and its contractor will perform site preparatory work and testing that will close six stations this weekend, March 2 -3, on the Blue/Yellow lines: Huntington, Eisenhower Ave, King St, Franconia-Springfield, Van Dorn St and Braddock Rd. During this time, free shuttle buses will replace trains between Huntington/Franconia-Springfield and Reagan National Airport.

Engineers will conduct core drilling around the stations to assess conditions, and power to the stations will be cut to allow testing on cables and electrical systems. In addition, crews will conduct hazard assessment and mitigation, install temporary safety equipment, and perform inspections of the platform structures.

Metro will use the closure to conduct additional maintenance and track work, including rail and tie renewal and switch maintenance near Braddock Road Station.

Rail service between Reagan National Airport and Washington, DC, will be available throughout the weekend, with trains departing the airport every 10 minutes (alternating every 20 minutes on Yellow, every 20 minutes on Blue). A similar weekend closure to prepare for the platform project is planned for this spring.

#### **SERVICE INFORMATION:**

#### **Blue Line**

- Shuttle buses replace Blue Line trains between Franconia-Springfield and Reagan National Airport. Allow additional travel time.
- Trains every 20 minutes between Reagan National Airport and Largo Town Center with single tracking between Smithsonian and Federal Center SW.
- Franconia-Springfield, Van Dorn Street, King St-Old Town, and Braddock Road stations will be closed.

#### **Yellow Line**

- Shuttle buses replace Yellow Line trains between Huntington and National Airport. Allow additional travel time.
- Trains every 20 minutes between Reagan National Airport and Mt Vernon Square.
- Customers traveling to/from stations north of Mt Vernon Sq should use the Green Line to complete their trip
- Huntington, Eisenhower Avenue, King St-Old Town and Braddock Road stations will be closed

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#### **Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority**

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For immediate release: March 4, 2019

# Metro begins testing automatic door operations on passenger trains

The first Metro trains to automatically open their doors in years have been operating on the system over the past two weeks, as Metro conducts testing and calibration before restoring regular use of the auto-doors feature.

The automatic door opening feature is part of the original design of the Metrorail system, but its use was discontinued years ago – along with automatic train operations – due to reliability problems and overriding safety priorities. When in automatic-door mode, the train receives data on its exact location from transmitters located on the track. After the train comes to a complete stop and is confirmed to be properly "berthed" at the platform, the doors are automatically opened on the appropriate side of the train.

Returning to automatic door operations has two significant benefits. First, it enhances safety by removing the potential for human error resulting in a "wrong side" door opening. Metrorail operators initiate an "open doors" command more than 20,000 times each weekday. While rare, there have been instances where operators have temporarily lost awareness and accidentally opened doors on the wrong side of the train, something that the automatic system prevents.

Use of the automatic system also improves the customer experience. Following a series of wrong-side door incidents several years ago, Metro began training operators to pause several seconds prior to opening the doors. The pause was meant as a behavioral safety check to reduce the risk of a mistake. However, for customers, there is now a delay of several seconds between the train arriving at the station and the doors opening. When using the automatic system, doors will open as soon as the train is stopped at the proper location.

Train operators will continue to have responsibility for closing doors at all times.

Additional testing will be conducted over the next several weeks, along with ongoing train operator familiarization. If all goes well, Metro expects to return to systemwide use of the auto-doors feature later this year.

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